

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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Help! Journalists Are Being Killed in Central America

Brazil Control Of Data Sending May Affect Press

SAO PAULO — Brazil is mapping a tough policy to control computer software and data transmission, which might create problems for news agencies operating in the country, reports *Business Latin America* in an exclusive story.

Veteran newsman Leslie Warren, who has been covering Brazil from the days when Brasilia was only a gleam in bureaucrats' eyes, reports that a policy to limit software imports as well as access to foreign data banks lacks only approval by the Brazilian president.

Embratel, the Brazilian state telecommunications agency, will soon be handling all data transmissions and will require users to provide information on the data to be transmitted as well as monitoring transmissions.

"The policy is already taking shape. The Brazilian airline Varig was recently advised it could not continue to use a computer in the U.S. for control of reservations . . . but rather must seek a unit in Brazil. Reuters has also been told it must set up a local data bank and faces cancellation of its services in Brazil if it does not comply," writes Warren.

Adds Michael Lafferty, editor of *Retail Banking International* in London: "Brazil is in the forefront of controlling data transmissions," a topic of keen interest also to retail banking and credit card operations.

— Bill Hieronymus

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 29, 1982

5:30 p.m. Board of Governors Meeting

Thursday, April 29, 1982

6:30 p.m. Annual Membership Meeting & Election of new Officers & Governors.

Western European Diplomats at OPC On Study Tour

Thirty members of the Assembly of the Western Europe Union were guests of the club at a reception March 26 in Rumford Hall. Members of their respective national parliaments, they were in the U.S. to prepare a report on U.S.-European cooperation in joint security and international peace. Countries represented were the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, West Germany and Italy.

OPC president Henry Gellermann hosted the reception. He was joined in the discussion by Henry Cassidy, Victor Riesel, Ansel Talbert, George Krimsky, Paul Friedman, Von Krusenstiern, Michael Sieniawski and Ron Scherer, New York bureau chief for the *Christian Science Monitor*.

The reception was tendered the delegation at the request of the State Department. In New York they met also with the Council on Foreign Relations.

Malice Not All Absent in Film

Whatever impression the movie "Absence of Malice" left with the lay public, newspaper people left it with feelings ranging from sour to sore. It deals with an ambitious woman reporter who betrays the confidences of two people, resulting in the death of one of them. Featured in the movie are Sally Fields, the reporter, and Paul Newman, the man she betrayed.

The New York Press Club devoted a meeting to discussion of the movie. Picking up from their *Byline Bulletin*: Leslie Maitland of *The New York Times* "was outraged that the Sally Field character went to bed with one

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Six Who Were There Urge U.S. Media To Save Free Press

In Nicaragua . . . "the situation of journalists is profoundly threatening."

In El Salvador . . . "the problem of protecting the physical security of journalists themselves has become an international scandal."

No country has been "as inhospitable to journalists or to free press as Guatemala . . . since 1978 more than two dozen employees of news organizations have been murdered or abducted."

There were some of the highlights of a report issued by a team of six journalists recently following their return from a 10-day fact-finding mission to the three countries in Central America. Their report was presented at a well-attended press conference at the OPC.

The mission was sponsored by the Committee to Protect Journalists, a New York-based organization founded in 1981 "out of concern for the increasing risks and violence journalists face in many parts of the world." The OPC supports the work of the Committee and contributed to funding for the mission.

The group told how the systematic suppression of the free press in the three countries had degenerated into physical abuse, violence, imprisonment without due process, disappearances and killings.

Members of the delegation said that they drew some modest hope from recent public statements by the new junta in Guatemala, and from pledges they received in person from top Salvadoran officials to halt the intimidation of the press and to defend journalists' rights and security.

Members of the press delegation included: Michael Massing, executive director of *The Columbia Journalism Review* and co-director of the

(Continued on page 2)

How Will We Know Who Fired First?

(This is a follow on George Weller's review of the book "Assault On The Liberty" by Ensign James M. Ennes, the cryptographer who took command of the ship after its skipper had been wounded. It appeared in the Bulletin last February 15. The book, George writes, "has never been reviewed in the U.S. by a national news magazine nor a N.Y. newspaper," but the Bulletin's review "put the book into New York bookstore windows for the first time.")

By George Weller

ROME — On the shores of Lebanon, where the question of who shoots first is more delicate than in 1967, where even the costly U.S. investment in Camp David's long dragged-out peace is at stake, there is so far no intelligence ship on station.

It is by no means certain that the Israelis will be the only aggressors again. The Palestinians appear to realize that provocation, repeated insistently enough, can push the Israelis into such mass civil bombing as they inflicted on Beirut last July. With provocation enough, at the right time, the Arabs may upset the Israeli master plan - if there is one - and set prematurely another huge overkill.

Dayan's victory over the helpless *Liberty*, and the subsequent humiliation of her sister the *Pueblo* in North Korean waters, has had the unfortun-

ate result of driving this type of intelligence ship off the Navy list.

The Soviets continue to operate them with success. They even placed a snooper off the Connecticut shore to watch the launching of the latest Trident submarine. But the *Liberty's* agony revealed such a total malfunction of naval communications that this kind of fine-tuned, farsighted operation seems out of reach.

Yet a similar U.S. intelligence ship was neatly rescued from the patrol ships of the Cuban navy. And even now a destroyer, her mid-decks crowded with listening devices, is watching the seas between Nicaragua and San Salvador for arms smuggling.

The State Department, which might be expected to be eager to accumulate live legal material on the aggressor-to-be in Lebanon — having lost everything on the *Liberty* — is not egging the Navy for action. Fact-seekers who ask State for background get a handout titled "The book is now closed on the *Liberty*."

Whoever fires the decisive opening shot, whether it be the Israelis who smite Lebanon first, or whether it be the PLO who deliberately provoke them into attacking, the absence of any American monitor to reveal which side starts the hypothetical new Mideast battle is likely to require an explanation to satisfy a discontented public.

Letters

TEL AVIV — David Aikman, *Time* bureau chief, was elected head of the Foreign Press Association at the recent annual election. Members of the new board are Gideon Berli, Lazare Bianco, treasurer, Peter Allen-Frost, secretary, **Jay Bushinsky**, Cable News, Norman Kempster, *Los Angeles Times*, Robert Slater, *Time*, Michael Theiler, UPI and Bruno Wassertheil. Bruno is also organizing a tennis tournament for sports-minded correspondents.

Electronic journalism isn't entirely reciting press announcements or photographing press conferences. There is still the glorious excitement and drama of the Hecht-MacArthur 'Front Page' era. **Jay Bushinsky** had to outwit the Army and rioters while photographing West Bank disturbances. He and his crew were motoring down the Sinai peninsula to Sharm el Sheikh. After successfully negotiating several road blocks they were refused entry. They drove back to Eilat to charter a plane. They arrived there just as the Israeli Foreign Minister Sharon and his Egyptian counterpart made an unannounced landing. Jay photographed the incident and the plane to complete the assignment.

— Max Gendel

P.S. — I'm voting for **Ann Stringer** and **Charles Schreiber** . . . perfect typecasting for the OPC.

SAVE FREE PRESS

(Continued from page 1)

Committee; George Watson, vice president of ABC News; John Larsen, senior editor of *Life* magazine; Randolph Ryan, editorial writer, *The Boston Globe*; Alan Weinstein, executive editor, *Washington Quarterly*; and Gloria Emerson, author and former *N.Y. Times* reporter.

Promising to continue to expose repression of the press wherever it occurs, the delegation's report concluded with a plea to all in the American media to join in exposing and publicizing the plight of domestic and foreign reporters in Central America "who are struggling to defend the realm of journalistic freedom."

— **Norman A. Schorr**

Co-chairman,

OPC Freedom of Press Committee

LAST CALL FOR TICKETS
ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28
MARY NOVICK (212) 679-9650

WANTED

More and more frequent news from OPCers resident or on assignment anywhere in the world outside the USA. We want to know what you're up to and what's going on in your area that affects and concerns journalists. Please write us. We are all eager to hear from you. OPC Bulletin, 52 East 40 St., New York, N.Y. 10017.

From a recent AP Log:

Journalists claim their profession has become the most dangerous occupation in Thailand. By one account, 26 have met violent death in the past three years and almost two dozen have been attacked.

"The profession is very dangerous because reporters are exposing corrupt activities," according to a lawyer and onetime newsman who is adviser to the Confederation of Thai journalists. "We want the police or authorities to pay more attention to protecting the rights and freedom of newsmen."

PRISM THEATRE

is proud to present

Best All 'Round

by Marsha Sheiness

directed by Stephen Stewart-James

BEST ALL 'ROUND is a gentle look back at three young women growing up in a Texas suburb in the late 50's. The play captures the delicate, sad and humorous moments of an adolescent's faltering attempt to gain identity and cope with adult problems in their infancy.

Through the efforts of your colleague, Edith Hornick Beer, we are offering your organization 25 tickets at a 50% discount to the opening night festivities *only*.

Opening night is April 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Perry Street Theatre at 31 Perry St. near 7th Ave. For reservations call: 269-4869.

ITEM-IZING

Applications for this year's competition for the W. Eugene Smith grant in "humanistic photography" are now available from the W. Eugene Smith Memorial Fund, 170 West End Ave., 15D, New York City 10023. The grant this year has been increased to \$15,000. It honors the late photojournalist, whose combat coverage in World War II was acclaimed, as were his photo essays in *Life*. Deadline is June 15. For info: (212) 874-7187.

* * *

If you're interested in a Senior Scholar Fulbright Award — for university teaching or postdoctoral research — now is the time to apply. Deadline for the American republics, Australia and New Zealand is June 15. For Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East it is Sept. 15. Write, naming country and field of interest, to: Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 11 Dupont Circle, Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20036.

* * *

From Hollywood, Fla., where **Nat Goldstein** has been keeping warm and quiet, comes a copy of *The Grandviewer*, a local publication, featuring a profile of Nat which quotes a former executive editor of *The New York Times* as saying that "if all the people who love Nat loved each other, there would be peace in the world."

* * *

Visiting with **Connolly Cole** at the club the other day was Brian Aldiss, the Ray Bradbury of England, in the U.S. to promote his new U.K. best-seller, "Helliconia Spring," published here by Atheneum. Aldiss, called the "thinking man's sci-fi writer," is delighted with response here to his latest effort. "They love it in Florida," he said, taking off for Texas to seek love there, too.

* * *

HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES to **Milton Caniff** and to United Press International . . . both celebrating their 75th. Ohio State, his alma mater, is marking the Caniff event with an exhibit of his cartoon strips, "Terry and the Pirates" and "Steve Canyon." UPI will celebrate with special events at the American Newspaper Publishers Association later this month in San Francisco.

* * *

Obituary

Ralph Hilton, who divided his life between journalism and the U.S. Foreign Service, died March 13 at Hilton Head, S.C., where he had founded and edited the weekly *Island Packet*.

A native of Mississippi, he became a newspaper man at 12 as columnist and janitor for the *Simpsonville County News*.

While attending George Washington University he wrote a weekly column about the Mississippi Congressional Delegation for several Mississippi papers, earned enough money to take a tramp-steamer world tour after graduating college.

He then became a freelance correspondent in Mexico City, was hired by the AP and worked as correspondent and editor for them until 1943, when he joined the U.S. foreign service and worked for it for 20-odd years.

He edited "Tales of the Foreign Service," published in 1978. He was a distant relative of the Capt. William Hilton, for whom Hilton Head is named. He is survived by his wife, a daughter and two stepsons.

MALICE IN FILM

(Continued from page 1)

of her sources. Maitland compares that to her own experience with the Abscam investigation. After she broke a large portion of the story for *The Times*, she said a lot of people were suggesting that she had a boyfriend who worked for the FBI."

"I got increasingly enraged about it," Maitland said, pointing out that "when a man breaks a big story, no one ever suggests he has a girlfriend who could have been a source."

Now picking up from the movie magazine *In Cinema*, quoting Paul Newman: "I'm not prepared to defend the morality of the press. I don't have negative feelings about all newspapers, but there are negative aspects about a lot of them. They protect themselves just like doctors, dentists and gangsters - not necessarily in that order."

"What we show in 'Absence of Malice,'" he goes on, "happened a few weeks ago in Illinois and I'm not sure the case even hit the print. It was the worst kind of information and the guy won the case . . . television probably gets as much flack as it deserves. I'm not sure newspapers do."

Placement

FOR SALE BY OWNER: CO-OP PENTHOUSE alcove studio East 20s at 2nd in Manhattan, large, sunny, south & west views, recently painted, newly refinished parquet floor, white tile bath, part-time doorman. A/C unit, stove, fridge included. Must see. Tel. (401) 847-2396 or write PO Box 761, Newport, R.I. 02840.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

New York-based trade association representing a major industry seeks an experienced professional to head its one-person public relations and internal communications function. Experience must include contacts with national press, and speech-writing in business or association setting. Send resume to Ms. Alice Bird McCord, 100 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001.

Longtime OPC journalist with news, public relations, classroom teaching experience and advertising (plus Ph.D.) seeks challenging foreign assignment with magazine or public relations/advertising agency. Is eager to get out of the classroom and back into the field. Reach William F. Vartorella, 340 E. Beverley St., Staunton, VA. 24401. Or phone 1-703-885-0811, Ext. 278.

Experienced writer/reporter specializing in broadcasts on show-biz, TV and sports, with major-league experience at U.S.A. syndicates, seeks reportorial assignments at TV/radio station and/or newspapers. Currently rates as one of today's youngest, most widely-read TV columnists. Please send replies to Helen Alpert, Placement, to be forwarded.

New Members

ACTIVE RESIDENT	Ben Bassett Gerald A. Renner
ACTIVE NONRESIDENT	Pierre D. Cooley
ACTIVE OVERSEAS	Jacques G. Richardson
ASSOCIATE OVERSEAS	Clement J. Livingstone
AFFILIATE	Marjorie E. Mantius



OPC BULLETIN

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Irvin S. Taubkin, Editor; Helen Alpert, Rosalind Moore, Rosalind Massow, Charles J. Schreiber, Lawrence Stessin, Associate Editors.

Who, What, Where

By Rosalind Massow

TIME OUT . . . *Daily News'* reporter **Theo Wilson**, who has the reputation of having the fastest typewriter in the East or West, was ordered by her paper to clean up her overtime — that's one-and-a half year's worth, folks! Theo spent the last three months covering the Claus von Buelow trial at Newport, R.I. During that time both Theo and **Doc Quigg** (UPI) so dazzled the press corps with their court savvy they were interviewed almost as many times as the attorneys in the case. In the last 20 years, each has covered more than 30 of the nation's most important court trials. With Theo's new found time friends hope she'll take her Mynah bird's nagging seriously and "write it down" in what should be a best selling book.

VEEP'S MAINE . . . The best of Maine as projected through the eyes of its most famous resident, Vice President George Bush, has been captured in a whimsical guide written by **Allan Swenson** and his pet scottie Thistle McTavish. It's really a double by-line. The 144-page illustrated book is called "Bush Country by George," published by Guy Gannett.

RETURNS TO LIFE . . . *People Magazine's* former managing editor, **Richard B. Stolley** has gone back to his first love — *Life*, a magazine he spent 20 years with before it suspended publication in 1972. Stolley returns as M.E., replacing Philip B. Kunhardt who retired because of ill health.

SPOTLIGHT FOR PHILLIPS . . . The N.Y. State Home Economic Association has named **Jean Phillips** as recipient of its 1982 Spotlight Award for her work in helping middle-aged and older women cope with finding employment in a youth-oriented society. Last year Mrs. Phillips organized the Manhattan Chapter of the Older Women's League with a handful of members — just one year later the membership swelled to 300! Mrs. Phillips is active in *Home Economists in Business* and is head of her own public relations firm, Phillips Communications, Inc.

GETS TOP JOB . . . Dr. Whitman Bassow, former *Newsweek* correspondent in Moscow and Paris, and more recently executive director of the World Environment Center, has been named president of the Environment Center. The not-for-profit organization provides the media with information on energy and toxic substances.

INVOLVED IN ADVENTURE . . . **Gene Seraphine** has been retained by Landmark Productions, Inc. to handle the national press conference for the 20-part TV series "Outdoor Life." The high adventure program begins this month and is produced in cooperation with the *Times Mirror and Outdoor Life Magazine*. Seraphine & Company Public Relations will be getting screen credits.

AUTHOR'S DREAM . . . Margaret Zellers, author of "Fielding's Guide to the Caribbean and the Bahamas," couldn't have asked for more of a publicity break. A recent six-column story on Caribbean guide books in the *N.Y. Times* mentioned her name and book no less than 11 times. From paragraph to paragraph she got rave reviews.

DANBURY MOVE NOT FAIR . . . Friends and press contacts of popular **Ralph Leviton** who wonder what happened to him have no cause for worry. Union Carbide moved him and the rest of its press department kicking and screaming to its new corporate headquarters in Danbury, Conn. An assistant director of corporate communications, Ralph plans frequent visits to N.Y.C. His new phone number (203) 794-6982 is a toll call.

ALSO FROM DANBURY . . . Earl W. Foell, editor-in-chief of *The Christian Science Monitor*, delivered the annual Arconti Lecture at Western Connecticut State College in Danbury, Conn. The lecture dealt with The First Amendment. Last year's speaker was **Seymour Topping**, M.E. of *The N.Y. Times*.

KUDOS TO CONWAY . . . When **Hugh Conway** isn't writing his column he writes award-winning essays. In a nation-wide contest on free enterprise, sponsored by Textron, Inc., Hugh won first prize with his essay "Two Sides of the Curtain." The Steuben Society of America just reprinted the piece in *Steuben News* and **Boyan Choukanoff** used it as source material in Radio Free Europe broadcasts.

CLUB SWEETHEART . . . St. Valentine's Day has special meaning to many people, and club manager Mary Novick is no exception. She shyly confided that this past Feb. 14 marked her 10th anniversary as an OPC-staffer.

Morton Frank got tapped the other day by the Texas Daily Newspaper Association with a citation for his "long and distinguished career in the newspaper business as a newsman and editor and publisher of *Family Weekly*." Mort has been an active OPCer since those halcyon days on 39th Street. He was a member of the Awards Committee this year, chairman of judging for the awards for outstanding overseas magazine reporting and outstanding magazine interpretation of foreign affairs.

From Boca Raton, Fla., comes word that **Roy Newborn** has taken up residence there. Roy's enterprises in Altoona, Pa., which include newspapers, magazines, books, records, etc., have expanded to include not one, but two Chinese restaurants. He got into that business by backing the Chang family in their expansion.

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